

AMENDMENT OF THE CLAIMS

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

1. (Original) An object of value with a security element disposed completely on the surface of the object of value, the security element having a thermochromic layer, characterized in that the thermochromic layer is combined with an additional, optically effective effect layer having visually and/or machine testable properties.
2. (Original) An object of value according to claim 1, characterized in that the effect layer has luminescent and/or magnetic properties.
3. (Currently Amended) An object of value according to claim 2, characterized in that the effect layer is a printing ink containing luminescent and/or magnetic pigments and/or preferably further coloring pigments.
4. (Original) An object of value according to claim 1, characterized in that the effect layer is a directly reflecting layer.
5. (Original) An object of value according to claim 4, characterized in that the directly reflecting layer is a translucent layer producing different color effects in reflected light upon a change of viewing angle.
6. (Original) An object of value according to claim 5, characterized in that the translucent layer contains interference layer pigments or liquid crystal pigments.
7. (Original) An object of value according to claim 5, characterized in that the translucent layer has a relief structure in the form of a diffraction structure which is combined with a transparent dielectric layer.

8. (Original) An object of value according to claim 4, characterized in that the directly reflecting layer is a metal layer, preferably an aluminum layer.

9. (Original) An object of value according to claim 8, characterized in that the metal layer is present at least in certain areas in the form of a screen.

10. (Currently Amended) An object of value according to claim 8 [or 9], characterized in that the metal layer has gaps in the form of characters and/or patterns.

11. (Original) An object of value according to claim 10, characterized in that a metal layer, preferably an aluminum layer, is disposed in the form of a screen in the gaps.

12. (Original) An object of value according to claim 10, characterized in that a second thermochromic layer in the form of characters and/or patterns is present in the gaps.

13. (Currently Amended) An object of value according to [at least one of claims 9 to 12] claim 9, characterized in that the screen is present in the form of a dot or line screen.

14. (Currently Amended) An object of value according to [at least one of claims 8 to 13] claim 8, characterized in that a layer having a relief structure in the form of diffraction structures is disposed under the metal layer.

15. (Currently Amended) An object of value according to [at least one of claims 1 to 14] claim 1, characterized in that the thermochromic layer is all over.

16. (Currently Amended) An object of value according to [at least one of claims 1 to 14] claim 1, characterized in that the thermochromic layer is provided only in certain areas.

17. (Original) An object of value according to claim 16, characterized in that the thermochromic layer is provided in the form of characters and/or patterns.

18. (Original) An object of value according to claim 16, characterized in that the thermochromic layer is combined with at least one further thermochromic or visually recognizable layer, the layers supplementing each other to form recognizable information.

19. (Currently Amended) An object of value according to [at least one of claims 1 to 18] claim 1, characterized in that the thermochromic layer is disposed over the effect layer.

20. (Currently Amended) An object of value according to [at least one of claims 1 to 18] claim 1, characterized in that the thermochromic layer is disposed under the effect layer.

21. (Original) An object of value according to claim 20, characterized in that information in the form of characters and/or patterns is disposed under the thermochromic layer.

22. (Original) An object of value according to claim 21, characterized in that the information is printed or produced by means of a laser.

23. (Currently Amended) An object of value according to claim 20 [or 21], characterized in that the information has visually and/or machine testable properties.

24. (Original) An object of value according to claim 23, characterized in that the information has luminescent or magnetic properties.

25. (Currently Amended) An object of value according to [at least one of claims 21 to 24] claim 21, characterized in that the information is black.

26. (Currently Amended) An object of value according to [at least one of claims 1 to 25] claim 1, characterized in that the thermochromic layer is opaque below a predetermined temperature and at least translucent above said temperature.

27. (Currently Amended) An object of value according to [at least one of claims 1 to 25] claim 1, characterized in that the thermochromic layer is translucent or transparent below a predetermined temperature and opaque above said temperature.

28. (Currently Amended) An object of value according to [at least one of claims 1 to 27] claim 1, characterized in that the security element is a label.

29. (Currently Amended) An object of value according to [at least one of claims 1 to 28] claim 1, characterized in that the object of value is a security paper, security document or product package.

30. (Currently Amended) A security element for protecting objects of value, the security element having a thermochromic layer which is combined with a translucent layer which produces different color effects in reflected light upon a change of viewing angle, and the thermochromic layer being disposed under the translucent layer, characterized in that the translucent layer contains liquid crystal pigments or has a relief structure in the form of a diffraction structure which is combined with a transparent dielectric layer ~~or contains liquid crystal pigments~~.

31. (Original) A security element according to claim 30, characterized in that the thermochromic layer is opaque below a predetermined temperature and at least translucent above said temperature.

32. (Original) A security element for protecting objects of value, the security element having a thermochromic layer, characterized in that the thermochromic layer is combined with a metal layer which is present at least in certain areas in the form of a screen.

33. (Original) A security element according to claim 32, characterized in that the metal layer has gaps in the form of characters and/or patterns.

34. (Original) A security element according to claim 33, characterized in that a metal layer, preferably an aluminum layer, is disposed in the form of a screen in the gaps.

35. (Original) A security element according to claim 33, characterized in that a second thermochromic layer in the form of characters and/or patterns is present in the gaps.

36. (Currently Amended) A security element according to [at least one of claims 32 to 35] claim 32, characterized in that the screen is present in the form of a dot or line screen.

37. (Currently Amended) A security element according to [at least one of claims 32 to 36] claim 32, characterized in that a layer having a relief structure in the form of diffraction structures is disposed under the metal layer.

38. (Currently Amended) A transfer material for producing a security element according to [any of claims 30 to 37] claim 30, characterized in that the transfer

material has a carrier material on which a security element according to [any of claims 30 to 37] claim 30 is disposed as a transferable layer.

39. (Original) A transfer material according to claim 38, characterized in that the transfer material is formed as a hot stamping foil.